The Invention Claimed Is:

1.   An interface for transmitting data messages between a telephone switching system and an adjunct processor and for translating said data messages between data message protocols, said interface comprising:

   a hardware component including;

   first and second connectors for connecting the interface to the telephone switching system, and

   a third connector for connecting the interface to the adjunct processor, and

   a software component including at least two data transmission links between the telephone switching system and the adjunct processor.

2.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said software alternates the transmission of data messages among said links.

3.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein if one of said at least two transmission links fails, said software transmits the data messages along a remaining number of said links.

4.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said data messages are translated from API protocol to SMSI protocol.

5.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said software includes at least two device driver algorithms to filter erroneous frames from the data messages.

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6.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said
software includes at least two protocol stack algorithms
to validate the data messages.

7.   An interface as defined in claim 6, wherein said
software includes a splitting task which receives
messages from said at least two protocol stack
algorithms.

8.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said
software includes a splitting task algorithm to split the
data messages into subsets.

9.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said
software includes a combining task algorithm to combine
data messages into sets.

10.   An interface as defined in claim 1, wherein said
software includes a combining task algorithm which
alternates transmission of data messages on at least two
links.

11.   An interfacing method for processing data between a
telephone switching system and an adjunct processor and
for translating data message protocol comprising the
steps of:

      providing interface hardware including first and
second connectors for connecting the interface to the
telephone switching system and a third connector for
connecting the interface to the adjunct processor; and

      transmitting the data messages between the telephone
switching system and the adjunct processor using at least
two transmission links.

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12. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the step of alternating the transmission of the data messages among said at least two links.

13. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a message that one link has failed; and

transmitting the remaining data messages on a remaining number of links.

14. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the step of filtering erroneous frames of data messages from the data messages.

15. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the step of validating the data messages.

16. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the step of splitting the data messages into subsets.

17. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the step of translating said data messages between API protocol and SMSI protocol.

18. A method as defined in claim 11, further comprising the step of combining data messages into sets.

19. A method as defined in claim 12 further comprising the steps of:

grouping the data messages in a first protocol into data message sets;

transmitting a first data message set from the
telephone switching system through a first port to a
first device driver algorithm;

transmitting a second data message set from the
5   telephone switching system through a second port to a
second device driver algorithm;

transmitting the first data message set from the
first device driver algorithm to a first protocol stack
algorithm;

10   transmitting the second data message set from said
second device driver algorithm to a second protocol stack
algorithm;

transmitting the first data message set from said
first protocol stack algorithm to a splitting task
15   algorithm;

transmitting the second data message set from said
second protocol stack algorithm to said splitting task
algorithm;

splitting the first data message set and the second
20   data message set into data message subsets;

transmitting the data message subsets an application
task;

translating the data message subsets into said
second protocol; and

25   transmitting the data message subsets to an adjunct
processor.

20. A method as defined in claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

receiving the data message subsets from the adjunct processor;

translating the data message subsets from said second protocol to said first protocol;

combining the data messages subsets into data message sets;

transmitting a first data message set to said first protocol stack algorithm;

transmitting a second message set to said second protocol stack algorithm;

transmitting said first data message set to said first device driver algorithm;

transmitting said second data message set to said second device driver algorithm;

transmitting said first data message set to the telephone switching system; and

transmitting said second data message set to the telephone switching system.

21.   A method of improving the performance and
reliability of translating data messages between data
message protocols and transmitting data messages between
a telephone switching system and an adjunct processor
5   comprising the steps of:

providing an interface, wherein the hardware of said
interface includes at least a first and second connectors
for connecting the interface to the telephone switching
system and a third connector for connecting the interface
10   to the adjunct processor;

transmitting the data messages from the telephone
switching system and the adjunct processor using multiple
links.

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